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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
OAKLAND DIVISION**

ABERIN, *et al.*, individually and on behalf of all
others similarly situated ,

Plaintiffs,

v.

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC. ,

Defendant.

Case No. 4:16-cv-04384-JST

**~~[PROPOSED]~~ FINAL APPROVAL ORDER
AND JUDGMENT**

Judge: Honorable Jon S. Tigar

THIS MATTER having come before the Court for consideration of the parties' application for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement and the parties' briefing related to Plaintiffs' application for an Award of Attorneys' Fees, Reimbursement of Expenses and Plaintiffs' Service Awards. The terms used in this Order that are defined in the Settlement Agreement shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

WHEREAS, Defendant American Honda Motor Co., Inc. ("Defendant" or "AHM") and Plaintiffs Lindsay and Jeff Aberin (a married couple), Don Awtrey, Charles Burgess, John Kelly, and Joy Matza ("Named Plaintiffs") reached a Class settlement (the "Settlement");

WHEREAS, the parties submitted the Settlement Agreement together with their motion for preliminary approval of the proposed settlement to the Court;

WHEREAS, the Court gave its preliminary approval of the Settlement on February 1, 2024 (the "Preliminary Approval Order") and directed the parties to provide notice to the Class of the

1 proposed Settlement and the Final Approval Hearing by first class mail, postage prepaid, and
2 electronically by email if possible under the terms of the Settlement Agreement;

3 WHEREAS, the court-appointed Notice Administrator, JND Legal Administration,
4 effectuated notice to the Settlement Class in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order and
5 also pursuant to the notice requirements set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1715;

6 WHEREAS, Named Plaintiffs submitted their motion for final approval of class settlement,
7 and motion for award of attorneys' fees and expenses, and approval of incentive awards on April
8 4, 2014 and AHM submitted its opposition to Plaintiffs' motion on June 26, 2024;

9 WHEREAS, on August 15, 2024, the Court conducted the Final Approval Hearing to
10 determine whether the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, whether the
11 Settlement should be granted final approved by this Court, whether Class Counsel's request for
12 attorneys' fees in the amount of \$10,900,000, and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of
13 \$1,037,458.66 should be awarded; and whether the request for an incentive award to each of the
14 Named Plaintiffs in the amount of \$7,500 should be approved; and

15 WHEREAS, the parties having appeared at the Final Approval Hearing;

16 THEREFORE, after reviewing the pleadings and evidence filed in support of final approval
17 of the Settlement as well as Plaintiffs' requested award for attorneys' fees, reimbursement of
18 expenses and incentive awards and supporting documentation and AHM's Opposition, and hearing
19 the attorneys for the parties,

20 IT IS ON THIS 11th day of June, 2025, ORDERED and, ADJUDGED that the Settlement
21 is finally approved and the Court hereby finds and orders as follows:

22 1. The Court finds, upon review of the Settlement and consideration of the relevant
23 factors listed under Rule 23(e)(2) and discussed in *In re Bluetooth Headset Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 654

1 F.3d 935, 946 (9th Cir. 2011), that the Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. Accordingly,
2 the Settlement is hereby finally approved by the Court.

3 2. The Settlement is in the best interests of all Class Members and Defendant.

4 3. This Final Approval Order and Judgment incorporates and makes part hereof the
5 Settlement Agreement and all Exhibits thereto.

6 4. The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
7 § 1332(d)(2). Further, the Court has personal jurisdiction over the Plaintiffs and Defendant,
8 venue is proper, and the Court has subject matter jurisdiction to approve the Agreement,
9 including all exhibits thereto, and to enter this Final Approval Order. Without in any way
10 affecting the finality of this Final Approval Order, this Court hereby retains jurisdiction as to all
11 matters relating to administration, consummation, enforcement, and interpretation of the
12 Agreement and of this Final Approval Order, and for any other necessary purpose.

13 5. In addition to having personal jurisdiction over the Plaintiffs, the Court also has
14 personal jurisdiction over all Settlement Class Members because they received the requisite
15 notice and due process. *See Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Shutts*, 472 U.S. 797, 811-12 (1985)
16 (citing *Mullane v. Cent. Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, 314-15 (1950)).

17 6. Based upon the record before the Court, its earlier Order Granting Motion for
18 Class Certification (ECF No. 291), all submissions in support of the Settlement and for
19 modification of the earlier Order Granting Motion for Class Certification (ECF No. 291), the 10
20 objections and 57 opt-out requests, as well as the Settlement Agreement itself, the Court hereby
21 certifies a Class of all persons who purchased the following Acura vehicles before the vehicles
22 reached 10 years/120,000 miles: 2004-2008 TL, 2005-2008 MDX, or 2007-2009 RDX in the
23 States of California, Kansas, New York and Washington,

1 7. Excluded from the Class are Defendant and its parents, subsidiaries, and affiliates;
2 all persons who properly elect to be excluded from the Classes; governmental entities; and the
3 undersigned Judge to whom this case is assigned and his immediate family.

4 8. In so holding, the Court finds that the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil
5 Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) have been satisfied for certification of the Class for settlement
6 purposes because: Class members, numbering in the thousands, are so numerous that joinder of
7 all members is impracticable; there are questions of law and fact common to the Class; the
8 claims and defenses of the Named Plaintiffs are typical of the claims and defenses of the Class
9 Members they represent; the Named Plaintiffs have fairly and adequately protected the interests
10 of the Class with regard to the claims of the Class they represent; common questions of law and
11 fact predominate over questions affecting only individual Class Members, rendering the Class
12 sufficiently cohesive to warrant a class settlement; and the certification of the Class is superior to
13 individual litigation and/or settlement as a method for the fair and efficient resolution of this
14 matter. In making all of the foregoing findings, the Court has exercised its discretion in
15 certifying the Class based, *inter alia*, upon the Court's familiarity with the claims and parties in
16 this case.

17 9. The Settlement Agreement and the proposed Settlement were reached after lengthy
18 and rigorous arm's-length negotiations between the parties. The Settlement Agreement and the
19 proposed Settlement are fair, reasonable, and adequate.

20 10. The Settlement was the result of the parties' good faith negotiations and counsel
21 has adequately assessed this case's strengths and weaknesses and structured the Settlement in a
22 way that adequately accounts for those strengths and weaknesses.

1 11. The Court finds that in negotiating, entering into, and implementing the Settlement,
2 the Named Plaintiffs and Class Counsel have fairly and adequately represented and protected the
3 interests of all of the Class Members.

4 12. Notice in the form approved by the Court was provided, and it constituted the best
5 practicable notice under the circumstances. The Court further finds that the forms of Notice were
6 concise, clear, and in plain, easily understood language and were reasonably calculated, under the
7 circumstances, to apprise Class Members of the pendency of the Action, the claims, issues, and
8 defenses of the Class, the definition of the Class certified, their right to be excluded from the Class,
9 their right to object to the proposed Settlement, their right to appear at the Final Approval Hearing,
10 through counsel if desired, and the binding effect of a judgment on Class Members; and were
11 reasonable and constituted due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons entitled to receive
12 notice.

13 13. The terms of the Settlement Agreement and the Final Approval Order are binding
14 on the Named Plaintiffs and all other Class Members, as well as their heirs, executors and
15 administrators, successors and assigns.

16 14, As set forth in the Settlement Agreement and by operation of law, and incorporated
17 by reference hereto, the terms of the Settlement Agreement and the Final Approval Order shall
18 release any and all claims, actions, causes of action, counterclaims, demands (including, without
19 limitation, demands for arbitration), actions, suits, causes of action, allegations of wrongdoing,
20 liabilities, rights, demands, suits, debts, liens, contracts, agreements, offsets or liabilities, including
21 but not limited to tort claims, claims for breach of contract, breach of the duty of good faith and
22 fair dealing, breach of statutory duties, actual or constructive fraud, misrepresentations, fraudulent
23 inducement, statutory and consumer fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, unfair business or trade

practices, restitution, rescission, compensatory and punitive damages, injunctive or declaratory relief, attorneys' fees, interests, costs, penalties and any other claims, whether known or unknown, alleged or not alleged in the Litigation, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or matured, under federal law, state law, common law, or local law, which the Named Plaintiffs and/or any Settlement Class Member had, have, or may in the future have, with respect to any conduct, act, omissions, facts, matters, transactions or oral or written statements or occurrences relating to or arising out of the HFL System, as asserted in the Litigation, including via the use of a class action procedural device by the Named Plaintiffs and/or Settlement Class Members whether at law or equity, against AHM and all of the Releasees for injunctive relief, declaratory relief, and economic injury or damages. The Released Claims do not include claims for personal injury or wrongful death.

14. The parties and their counsel are ordered to implement and to consummate the Settlement Agreement according to its terms and provisions.

15. All claims against AHM in this Action are hereby dismissed on the merits and with prejudice, without fees or costs to any party except as provided below.

16. The Release set forth in the Settlement Agreement is incorporated by reference and shall mean AHM, its parent, subsidiaries, affiliates and related entities and all of its past and present directors, officers, employees, partners, principals, agents, and each of their predecessors, successors, parents, subsidiaries, divisions, joint ventures, attorneys, insurers, reinsurers, assigns, related or affiliated entities, Authorized Honda and Acura dealers, distributors, suppliers, and any members of their immediate families, and any trust for which any of them are trustees, settlers, or beneficiaries.

17. The Court hereby grants Class Counsel an award of reasonable attorneys' fees, in the amount of \$8,555,519.50, and reimbursement of costs and expenses in the amount of

\$1,026,270.91, in the total amount of \$9,581,790.41. The Court also grants each Named Plaintiff an incentive award in the amount of \$5,000.

18. Within forty-five (45) days after the Effective Date, provided that the order(s) awarding Class Counsel Fees and Expenses and/or Service Awards have become Final, and provided that Class Counsel has provided AHM with requisite W-9s and completed wire transfer forms, AHM shall pay, by wire transfer to the trust account of Seeger Weiss LLP, the Class Counsel Fees and Expenses and Service Awards.

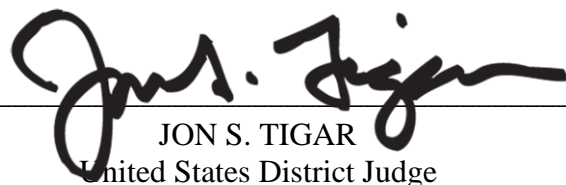
19. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement or Settlement shall be construed or admissible as an admission by AHM of any wrongdoing whatsoever including an admission of a violation of any statute or law, or of liability on the claims or allegations in the Litigation; and the Parties agree and understand that neither this Settlement Agreement nor the settlement it represents shall be construed or admissible as an admission by AHM in the Litigation or any other proceedings that the Named Plaintiffs' claims, or similar claims, are or would be viable or suitable for class treatment if the Litigation proceeded through both litigation and trial.

20. Without affecting the finality of the Final Approval Order and Judgment, the Court may retain continuing and exclusive jurisdiction over the parties, including all Settlement Class Members, for the purpose of the administration and enforcement of this Settlement Agreement.

21. There being no just reason to delay, the Clerk is directed to enter this Final Approval Order and Judgment forthwith.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: June 11, 2025


JON S. TIGAR
United States District Judge